

Dr. Green

12/1/80

A few questions re:
US bases in mid East

I was interested to see your
piece on the NY Times op-Ed page,
esp. since R. L. Truluck's article in
Commentary (11/80).

It has seemed to me obvious for at
least the last 10 years that a U.S.
military base in or near Israeli
territory was a sine qua non of future
stability in the area.

In point of fact, do you know
whether any Israeli govt., at any time,
has indicated its unconditional ability to
seize base privileges on Israeli territory
— to leave aside a variety of reasons
why the U.S. might hesitate?

As to what objectives, the U.S.
might well make a symmetrical
offer to Egypt + Saudi Arabia, which
could shift the onus on them to accept
or refuse. They could well complain that
the entire process attracts the constant presence
of the USOK — as does also their weakness!

X for chon site & + Green.